THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Wednesday No. 1
August 17, 1955

Middlebury College and the Conference Staff welcome you cordially. This bulletin, THE CRUMB, is the official newspaper of the Conference, and will be left each morning at your place in the dining-room. It will contain notices of lectures, discussions, and other activities of the Conference.

REGISTRATION

All members of the Conference are asked to register as soon as possible, during the hours named below.

(1) Immediately after going to your room and disposing of your baggage, complete payment of fees with Miss Hopkins and the business representatives of Middlebury College, from 2:00 to 5:30 in the afternoon. Even if your fees are paid in full, kindly see Miss Hopkins at this time so that the Conference records may be complete.

(2) Then register with the Director of the Conference, Mr. Morrison, who will be in his office during the same hours. If you are a Contributor, bring your manuscripts with you at this time.

Late arrivals may register immediately after dinner.

OPENING MEETING

At 8:00 o'clock this evening the opening meeting of the Conference will be held in the Little Theater. The Director will outline the program and offer suggestions for making the best possible use of it. After this meeting, all Conference members are invited to meet informally in the Club Room in the Barn.

MEAL HOURS

Breakfast.....8:00 to 8:30
Lunch.....1:00 to 1:15
Dinner.....6:15 to 6:30

Late breakfast and afternoon and evening snacks may be obtained for a small charge in the Conference Club Room in the Barn.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX | Thursday August 18, 1955 | No. 2

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Mr. Guthrie: The Short Story

10:30 Mr. Pratt: Non-fiction

11:30 Mr. Sloane: The Novel

2:30 Mr. Ciardi: Poetry

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Miss Sarton will be the speaker this evening. Her topic: Sense and Sensibility, or Pride and Prejudice (in the Modern Novel)

BOOKSTORE HOURS

The Bookstore, next to the Director's Office, carries many books by Conference staff and members, and limited stationery supplies. It will be open daily, during the half hour after breakfast and lunch. The Bookstore Manager is Paul Cubeta.

BARN SCHEDULE

The lunch counter in the Barn is open daily at the following hours: 9:00 - 11:30 a.m., 3:30 - 5:00 p.m., and 9:30 -11:00 p.m.

LIBRARY HOURS

The Library, down the path beyond the Little Theatre, will be open daily 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., and 9:00 to 9:45 p.m. The Conference Librarian is Ronald Glens.

FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Will the three Conference Fellows kindly meet with Dean Pratt at 3:30 today in Treman Parlour for introductory discipline?

LIQUID ASSETS

Members who need to cash checks locally should consult the Front Desk <u>at once</u> concerning clearance dates.

DRY CLEANING

Articles for dry-cleaning should be left at the Front Desk before noon today. The cleaner calls on Thursdays and Mondays.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX | Friday August 19, 1955 | No. 3

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30	Mr. Rovere:	Non-fiction
10:30	Miss Mackenzie:	Short Story
11:30	Miss Sarton:	Novel
2:30	Mr. Ciardi:	Poetry

EVENING LECTURE

Mr. Guthrie will be the speaker this evening. His topic: History and Fiction

CONFERENCE NURSE

Josephine Shepard, R. N., is available for consultation by Conference members in the dispensary in Birch #2 at the following hours: 8:30 - 9:00 a.m., 2:00 - 2:30 p.m., and 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. At other times she is on call via the Front Desk. In the event of illness please try to notify Miss Shepard before breakfast if at all possible.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found articles may be reported or turned in at the Front Desk. To advertise a lost article in the Crumb, kindly leave a short notice on the Director's desk.

NO PARKING, PLEASE

A highway law, enforced by the State Police, prohibits parking on the road in front of the Inn and cottages. Members are urged to use the parking lots in front of the Barn and beyond Maple Cottage.

INN TAXI

The Inn taxi makes regular trips to Middlebury on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, leaving the Inn at 1:45 and returning at 3:40. The fare is $1.00 per passenger on these trips.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Saturday August 20, 1955 No. 4

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Mr. Pratt: Non-fiction

10:30 Mr. Sloane: Novel

11:30 Mr. Guthrie: Short Story

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Robert Frost will give a reading this evening.

BOOKSTORE SERVICE

Members who wish books autographed by authors present at Bread Loaf should place identifying slips in such books and leave them with the Bookstore Manager, Paul Cubeta. It is a convenience to the authors to be able to sign a number of books at one time.

MAGAZINE DISPLAY

A large collection of magazines of all kinds is now on display in the Barn Chamber. As this has been arranged for the convenience of the whole Conference, members are asked not to remove copies from the Chamber.

HEALTH NOTE

Mrs. Shepard, the Registered Nurse in residence at the Conference and our adviser on health, suggests that swimming where beaches are crowded may not be altogether advisable during the closing weeks of the summer.

DAY OF REST

No events are scheduled for tomorrow. Notices of the local church services are posted on the dining room bulletin board.

Members and staff who have not previously noticed the mountains may be interested in obtaining information on local walks and hikes at the Front Desk. There is golf at the Middlebury Golf Club, tennis and croquet out back, saddle horses available in Middlebury, and innumerable drives of interest.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Sunday No. 5
August 20, 1955

SUNDAY

A day for walking, touring, reading, relaxation, writing, whether letters or manuscripts; a day when the staff will make mighty inroads on the work it has received from Contributors. The Inn desk will gladly give information about taxi trips to churches in Middlebury, about local walks, or about routes and distances for those who would like to see Vermont or adjacent New York State by car.

THE CONFERENCE FELLOWS, 1955

Each year the Conference is happy to offer a number of fellowships, which are supported partly by a budgetary allowance from our own funds and partly by gifts to our scholarship account. Gifts have come from publishers, visiting writers, members of the Conference and members of the staff. We should like to take the opportunity once more to make grateful acknowledgments for all such gifts, which have enabled us to bring promising writers to Bread Loaf who otherwise could not have attended.

Fellows are chosen competitively by a staff committee from among writers nominated to us by publishers, editors, agents, well known literary figures or teachers.

The Fellows this year are:

Miss Stephanie D. Blank of Cortland, N.Y. was an assistant professor at Cortland State Teachers College and was awarded the fellowship for her novel, "Home Is the Place." She was nominated by Pascal Covici of the Viking Press and Howard M. Jones, one of her former professors at Radcliffe College. A native of Germany, she has studied in England and at Smith and Radcliffe and Middlebury's Summer French School. She spent three seasons in summer stock and last summer worked on her novel. She plans to revise the novel after this summer's Writers Conference and a fall wedding.

Mrs. Ruth Goodwin, Oak Ridge, Tenn., a housewife and mother of two, was nominated for her work in short stories, and a novel in progress, by Emilie Jacobson of Curtis Brown, Ltd., literary agents. A native of Albany, N.Y., Mrs. Goodwin has written several stories for magazines and newspapers. One story appeared in "American Accent," an anthology of stories by writers who have attended Bread Loaf sessions. She went to Oak Ridge, Tenn., in 1945, following graduation from Syracuse, where she lives with her husband, Jack and two children, Linda, age 9, and Jeff, 6.

THE CONFERENCE FELLOWS, 1955

The novel, "Storm Fear," brought the award of a fellowship to Mr. Clinton Seeley of Woodstock, N.Y. He was nominated by Howard Cady of Henry Holt & Co., publishers of the novel. Seeley was born in Hensonville, N.Y. He left high school after two years to go to work; in 1940 he joined the Army and spent four years in the Pacific. Following Army service, he became editor of the Examiner-Record at Catskill, N.Y., and later worked for other Hudson Valley newspapers. His first novel was written in New Orleans while he sold fruit cakes for a food concern. "Storm Fear" was published last fall and was recently filmed by Theodora Productions for release next year. Currently, Seeley is working on a play and another novel.

LIBRARY HOURS

Library hours for Sunday: 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

EXHIBITION IN THE LIBRARY

Mrs. Donald Davidson has on exhibit in the Library a group of her wood engravings. There is a portfolio of the prints at the bookstore which anyone interested is invited to look through. The engravings may be purchased at the bookstore.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX | Monday August 22, 1955 | No. 6

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Miss Sarton: Novel

10:30 Mr. Povere: Non-fiction

11:30 Miss Mackenzie: Short Story

2:30 Mr. Giardi: Poetry

EVENING LECTURE

8:30 Mr. Sloane will be the speaker this evening. His topic: Inhalt

COME ONE, COME ALL

Coffee will be served in the Blue Parlor immediately after dinner this evening.

DRY CLEANING

Articles for dry cleaning should be left at the Front Desk before lunch today.

VERMONT BOOKSHOP

For books not stocked locally, members are advised to visit Dyke Blair's Vermont Bookshop in Middlebury. They will find there a large stock of books attractively displayed, plenty of opportunity to browse, and intelligent service.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Tuesday No. 7

August 23, 1955

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Mr. Sloane: Novel

10:30 Mr. Guthrie: Short Story

11:30 Mr. Pratt: Non-fiction

2:30 Mr. Ciardi: Poetry

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Ciardi will read from his poems this evening.

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

The bookstore has now received copies of Robert Frost's poems in the Modern Library edition and Robert M. Bartlett's They Dare to Believe. Other books by Bread Loaf authors are expected at any time, but floods are making deliveries uncertain for the next few days. Books may be left at the bookstore for autographing any time this week.

SQUARES AND ROUNDS IN THE BARN

Pinky, one of Vermont's really professional callers, will preside at an old fashioned square dance tonight at 9:00 in the Barn, right after the lecture. The music and dancing are what everyone, young and not-so-young, needs to forget the worries of trying to think about trying to write for a few hours. You don't need a date (or even a man). Come and try it. 75.6% of us are beginners (1950 census figures)-so shyness is no excuse. More local color than Vermont cows, cheese, or syrup.. (May come in handy in that next novel.) Pinky will take particular pleasure instructing rounds and squares.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Wednesday No. 8
August 24, 1955

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Miss Mackenzie: Short Story

10:30 Miss Sarton: Novel

11:30 Mr. Lincoln Barnett, author of The Universe and Dr. Einstein, Writing on Life, Life's recent series "The World We Live In," will conduct the non-fiction session. His topic: Profile Writing.

2:30 Mr. Ciardi: Poetry

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Bernard DeVoto will be the evening speaker.

LIQUID ASSETS

Wednesday, August 24 will be the last day for cashing checks except for Express orders, which can be cashed up to the last day. Checks drawn on Boston and New York City banks may be cashed through Saturday, Aug.27.

FROM THE SPANISH

5:00 This afternoon Miss Eleanor Turnbull, distinguished translator of Spanish poetry, will read from her definitive book, Ten Centuries of Spanish Poetry. All interested are invited to join Miss Turnbull in the Blue Parlour at five o'clock.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Thursday No. 9
August 25, 1955

LECTURE AND DISCUSSIONS

The program will begin this morning half an hour earlier in order to provide additional time for the clinics on the short story and novel and for a special lecture by Bernard DeVoto.

9:00 Mr. DeVoto: The Writing of Non-Fiction Books

10:00 Short Story Clinic

11:30 Novel Clinic

2:30 Adrienne Rich, author of A Change of World and The Diamond Cutters, will join Mr. Ciardi in the poetry session.

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Pratt will be the speaker this evening.

CLINICS

Beginning today, the Conference shifts from its first-week program of lectures to its second-week program of "clinics." At clinical sessions, work by contributing members will be read aloud in whole or in part for joint criticism by staff members and audience. Work is presented anonymonsly unless a given writer chooses to acknowledge his wares or is persuaded to do so by acclamation. All clinics are open to all members, and participation of auditors as well as contributors in criticism and discussion is welcome.

SUNDAY TRIP TO STOWE-MOUNT MANSFIELD

Tentative plans are being made for a bus trip Sunday afternoon to the Stowe-Mount Mansfield area. If enough persons sign up for the trip, the bus charge will be around $3.00; this charge is for the trip only and does not include going up in the chair lift or other incidentals. The bus would start from in front of the Inn about 2:15 p.m. and return in early evening. Guests interested should sign for the trip on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the dining room.

LATEST FLOOD BULLETIN FROM THE BOOKSTORE

Lincoln Barnett's The Universe and Dr. Einstein, not the sort of book to be daunted by a two billion dollar terrestrial flood, has arrived. A Shower of Summer Days, however, seems to have temporarily met its match and Storm Fear has apparently been frightened out of its wits.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Friday No. 10
August 26, 1955

CLINICS

9:30 Non-fiction

11:00 Short Story

2:30 Poetry

EVENING SPEAKER

8:00 Adrienne Rich will give a reading from her poems.

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

All Robert Frost books left for autographing before Wednesday noon may now be picked up at the bookstore.

Pre-publication copies of Mr. Ciardi's As If have been sold out. Anyone desiring an autographed copy should leave his name and address at the bookstore and the Rutgers University Press will be glad to mail copies in September.

MAPLE SYRUP

Grade A maple syrup, in one-half or one gallon cans only, is on sale at the Front Desk. The Desk will package these cans for mailing if this is desired.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Saturday No. 11
August 27, 1955

CLINICS

9:30 Novel

11:00 Non-fiction

DOWN ON THE FARM

From three-thirty to five this afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Morrison and Mr. Frost will be at home to the Conference at the Homer Noble Farm. To reach the Farm, follow the road toward Ripton for about a mile. At the Homer Noble mail box, turn sharp right and follow the farm road. In good weather, this is a pleasant walk of about twenty-five minutes.

For non-walkers, non-drivers and stragglers, the Inn truck will leave the front porch around three twenty-five.

SOUNDS OF REVELRY BY NIGHT

Incredible as it may seem, certain conference members have reported that their indispensable modicum of sleep has been imperilled by exuberant voices in corridors and other places of echo and resonance. The Crumb respectfully suggests that late-hour conversation and self-expression be conducted as far as possible in places where it will not resound through open windows or penetrable partitions. The barn, the parlor, the central Inn with doors closed against the autumnal chill -- There is a range of choice available where those with important midnight communications should be able to make them without dragging in a captive or unwilling audience.

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

Mr. Guthrie's The Way West has arrived. Autographed copies of Mr. Morrison's books may be picked up any time. Copies of Mr. Ciardi's As If are being held at the bookstore for Miss Kneeland and Miss Burnett.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX | Sunday August 28, 1955 | No. 12

LIBRARY HOURS

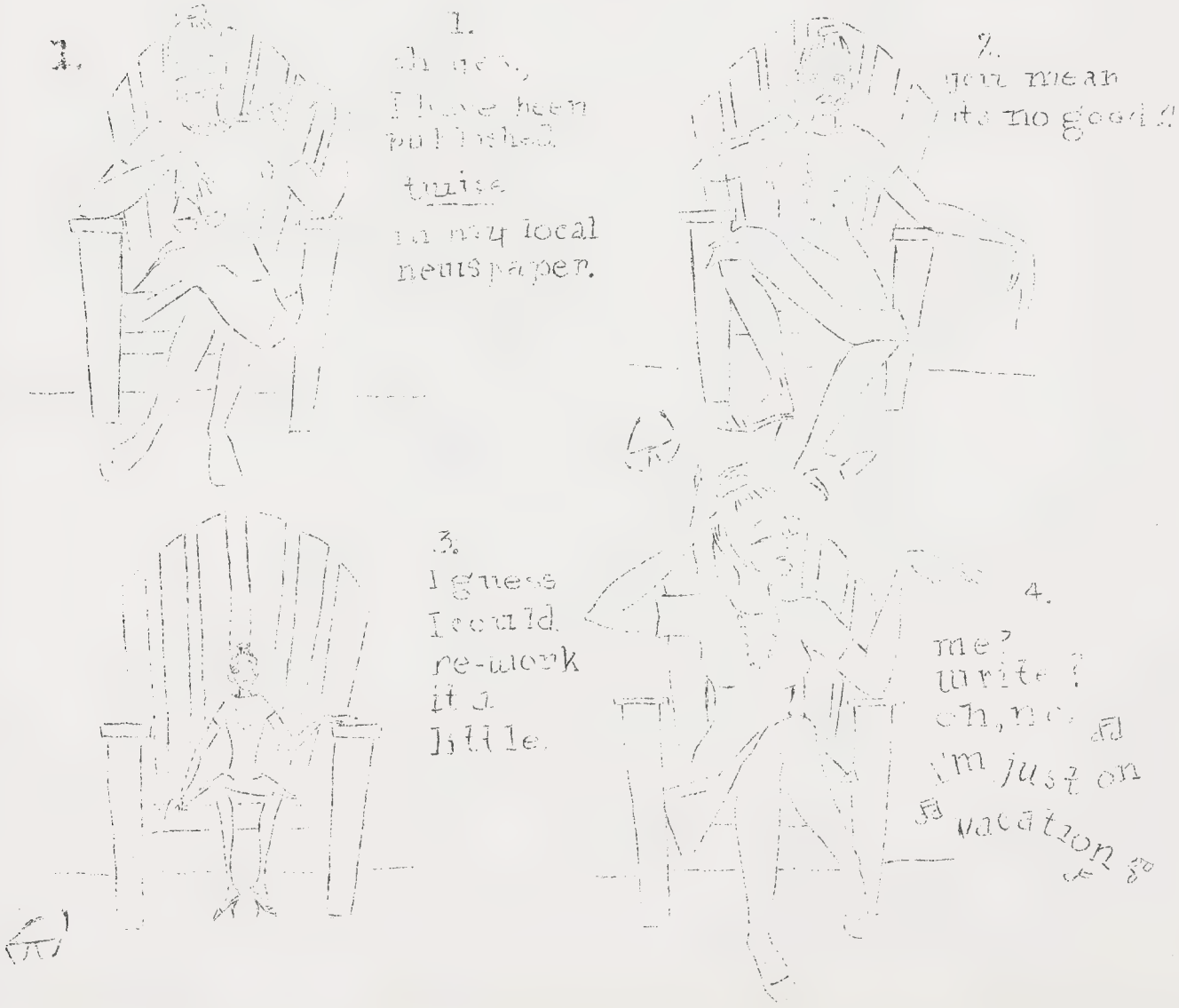
Sunday: 10:00 - 11:00

SUPPER ON THE GRASS, ALAS

Weather permitting, the Sunday evening meal will be served on the lawn of Breadloaf campus.

SUNDAY COMICS

Like an art department in a progress school, the Crumb believes in filling all available space. Hence the volunteer contribution by a Conference artist.



THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Monday No. 13
August 29, 1955

CLINICS

9:30 Non-fiction

11:00 Novel

2:30 Robert Frost will conduct the poetry session.

EVENING

8:00 Rowland Sturges will give a piano recital. Mr. Sturges has studied musical composition with Nadia Boulanger in Paris and Walter Piston at Harvard and piano with Oscar Wagner, David Barnett, Bruci Simonds, Lily Dumont, and other leading teachers and performers. He has given concerts in Boston and other New England cities and in the Midwestand Brazil. Boston reviewers have paid high tribute to his accomplished musicianship and sensitive interpretations. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and teaches both privately and in preparatory schools. The Conference has been remarkably fortunate in securing so fine a musician as Rowland Sturges as a friend and an enricher of its programs during the past several years.

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

All books except Mr. Frost's left for autographing may now be picked up at the bookstore.

FROM THE FRONT DEST

Guests who are sending parcel post packages should mail them from the desk post-office by noon, Wednesday, Aug. 31.

Express parcels and luggage will be picked up Wednesday afternoon; then will be sent collect. Watch for the sign-up list on the bulletin board.

To insure transportation to the bus station on Wednesday, guests must indicate to the desk by Monday,, 6:00p.m. the time of bus departure from Middlebury.

Deposit envelopes must be claimed by 6:00 p.m. Tuesday.

Guests leaving luggage or parcels to be sent by collect express should inform the desk of the number of pieces, room number of the occupant, and get <u>two</u> express tags for each piece.

Packages to be mailed by parcel post must be in the post office by noon Wednesday.

Maids will remove linen from rooms at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday. Guests should check dressers, desks, closets to make sure no personal property is left behind.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Tuesday No. 14
August 30, 1955

CLINICS

9:30 Short Story Clinic

11:00 William Hazlitt Upson will conduct a personal clinic on the writing of one of his famous Alexander Botts stories.

2:30 Poetry Clinic

BANQUET

All Conference members are asked to enter the dining room at the same time, 6:30, so that the banquet ceremonies may proceed on schedule. After the banquet there will be a get-together in the barn. Mr. Sturges will assist with informal music.

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

All of Mr. Frost's books have now been autographed and can be picked up this morning.

Will the following authors kindly drop in when convenient after breakfast or lunch to partake in an orgy of autographing: Mr. Sloane, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Ciardi, Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Seeley, Miss Turnbull, Miss Sarton, and Miss Rich.

No supplies will be sold after Tuesday at 2:15. No books will be sold after 9:30 Wednesday morning.

YOU CAN'T TAKE THEM WITH YOU!

Will all who still have library books please return them to the library between 3:30 - 5:30 today.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXX Wednesday No. 15
August 31, 1955

CLINIC

The final and very informal clinic will be held at 9:30 to enable those who are leaving early to carry out their plans.

TIMES OF DEPARTURE

Will anyone who has changed his travel plans kindly keep the Front Desk informed of such changes so that proper transportation can be furnished??

LIBRARY BOOKS?

GREGORIAN CALENDAR

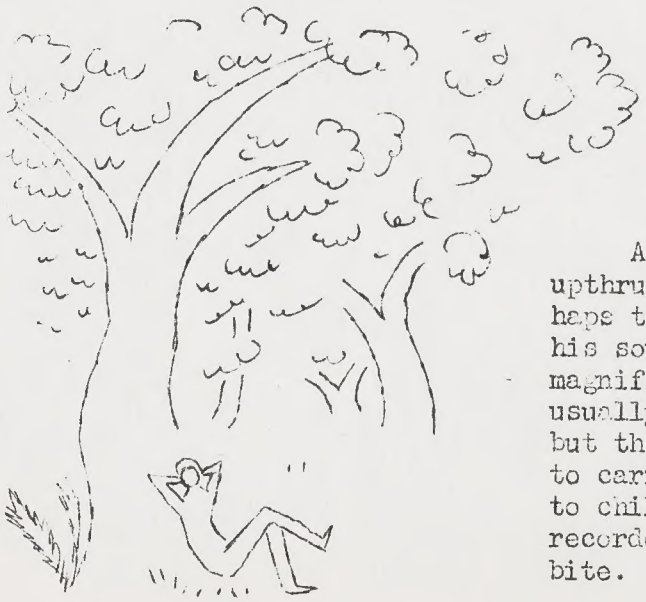
Fifty weeks to go..

1950

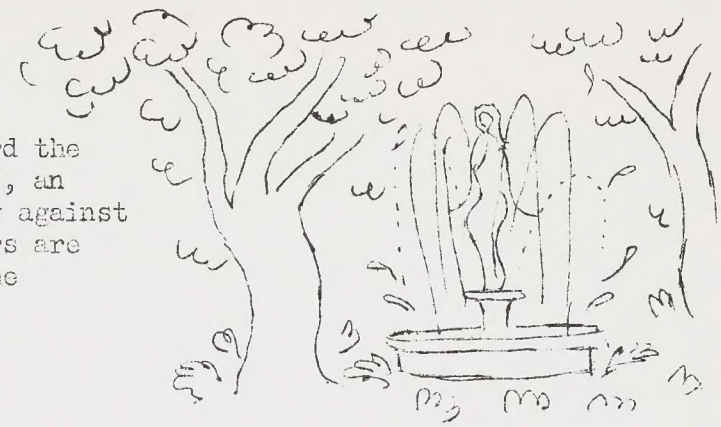
A GUIDEBOOK TO BREAD LOAF

On entering the Bread Loaf reservation you will be accosted by numerous professional guides, or cultural pickpockets. You may select one, keeping a tight zipper on your psyche, but the distinguished traveller, Richard Rovere, who has been of the greatest assistance in preparing this official manual, advises that your own instincts will carry you thgough with the help given herein.

On entering reservation from the West the first notable landmark you will encounter will be G U T H R I E K N O B, a conglomerate outcropping from the early Montanian strata of the Mesozoic. It is a peculiar feature of the Bud-rock of this formation that though heavily faulted, all its faults run East while all its trails run West.

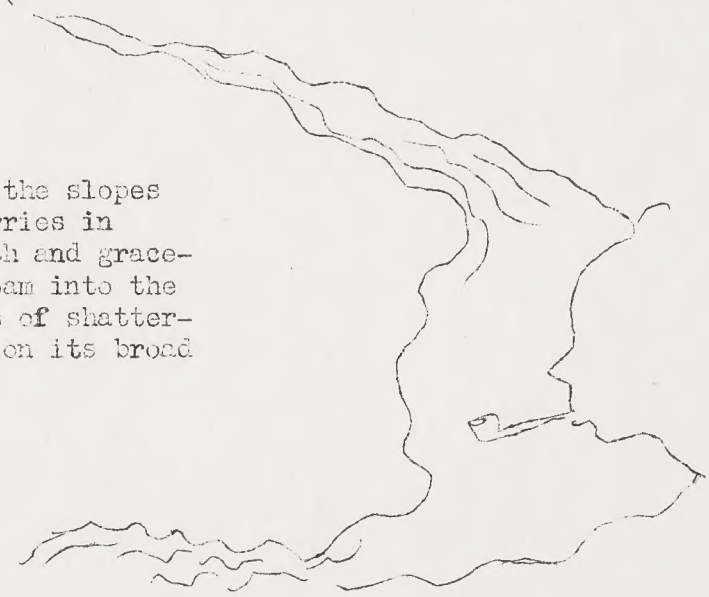


As the traveller skirts the base of this upthrust, he will be pleased to rest, perhaps to picnic, but in any case to invite his soul in Mackenzie Vale, an area of magnificent foliage. The breezes are unusually gentle in this rolling park area but the wary traveller will be well advised to carry a coat since they have been known to chill to the bone, and even in certain recorded cases to produce disastrous frostbite.



Beyond MACKENZIE VALE, and toward the Proustian Groves SARTON FOUNTAIN, an eternal spring, tosses its spray against the prevailing winds. Its waters are highly regarded as a cure for the Plague.

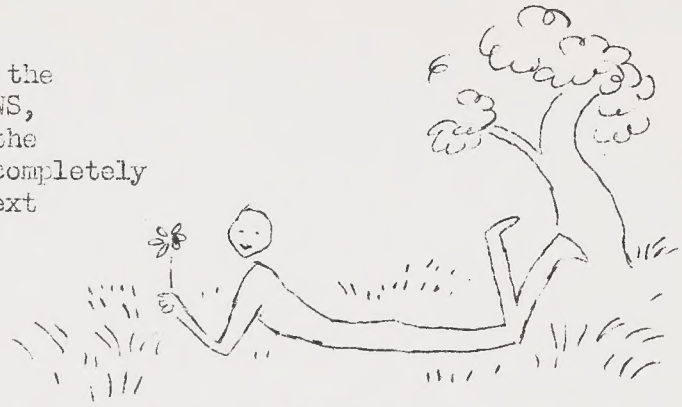
In the distance rises the still smoking volcanic summit of MOUNT DEVOTO. Wind currents are especially turbulent in this area, and travellers are advised to watch out for avalanches. The mountain has a special tendency to erupt on THE HOUR and should be approached only with the greatest caution at such times.



The SLOANE RIVER gushes from the slopes of this craggy summit and hurries in several directions, now smooth and graceful, now furiously tossing foam into the air and carrying the remnants of shattered structures of novel shape on its broad breast.

The traveller who follows the course of this stream will almost inevitably be drawn aside to examine CIARDI GULCH, a curious formation which begins almost as smoothly as MACKENZIE VALE, but becomes increasingly more arduous, as if to test the traveller's constancy. Few birds sing in the trees and thunder storms are frequent.

Anyone successful in negotiating the GULCH will attain the RICH MEADOWS, where Pierian springs gush from the ground and it is possible to be completely at ease before undertaking the next geographical feature.



Visible from CIARDI GULCH, a few wisps of strange vegetation mark the beginning of THE PRATT FOREST, an area descending to depths not yet sounded by explorers though its more accessible regions are well known to many for its spectacular hanging mosses, generally believed to be extraterrestial in origin and certainly out of this world.

Over the entire Bread Loaf landscape and at times throwing the whole of it into shadow broods the majestic shape of MOUNT MORRISON, a peak so huge that the other geographical features may be regarded as details of its structure. Its upper peak reaches toward eternal FROST.